Title: Method and System for Chrome Cut-Out Regions on a Reticle

Inventor(s): Irby et al.

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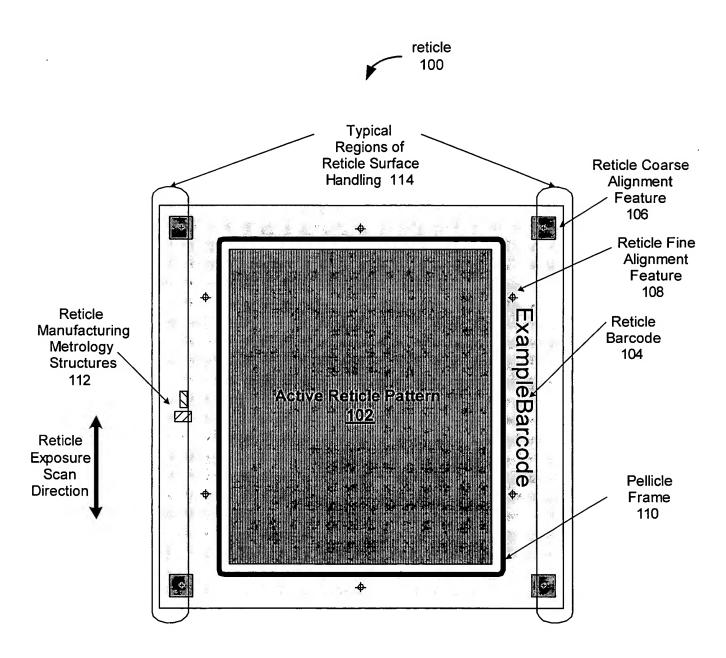


FIG. 1

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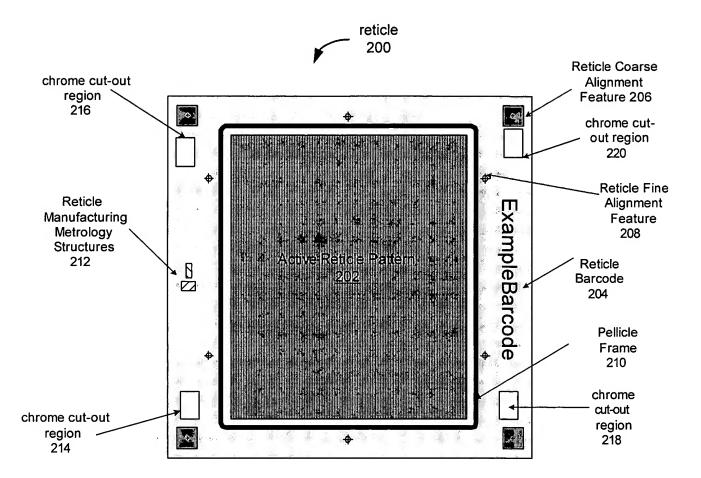


FIG. 2

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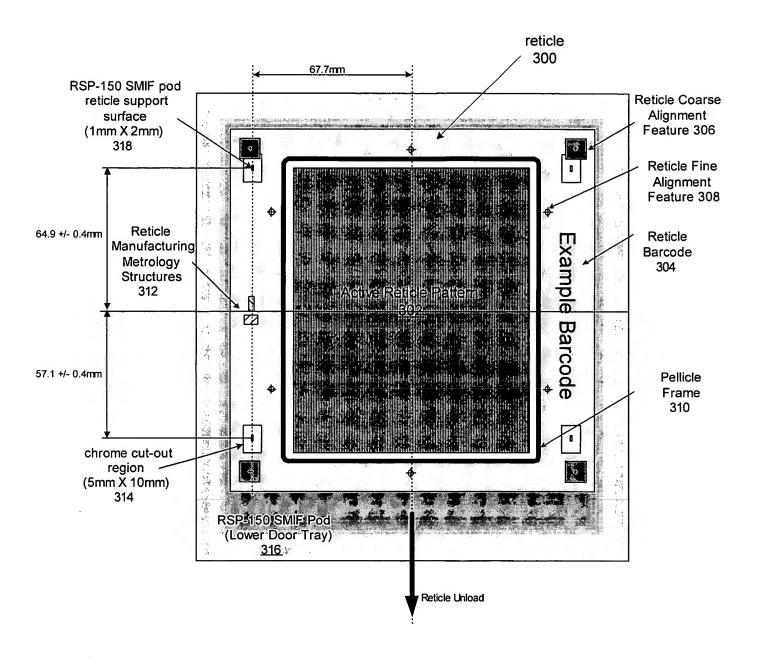


FIG. 3

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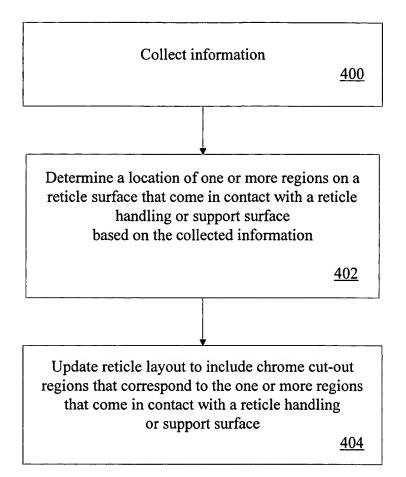


FIG. 4

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Write a pattern on a blank reticle that has a layer of photoresist and a layer of chrome, the pattern including one or more regions that have been determined to come in contact with a reticle handling or support apparatus

<u>500</u>

Develop the pattern to remove the photoresist layer covering the regions determined to come in contact with the reticle handling or support apparatus

<u>502</u>

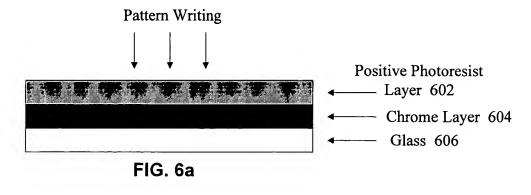
Etch away the chrome layer from the regions determined to come in contact with the reticle handling or support apparatus

<u>504</u>

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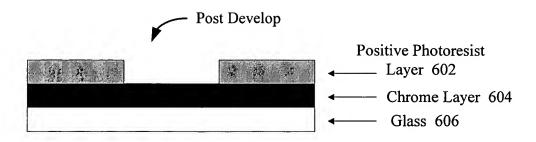


FIG. 6b

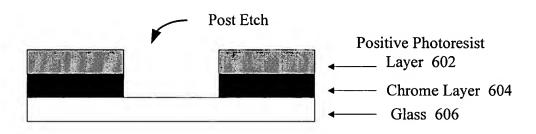


FIG. 6c

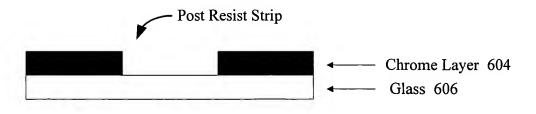


FIG. 6d

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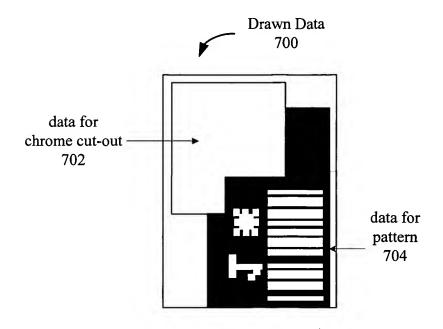


FIG. 7a

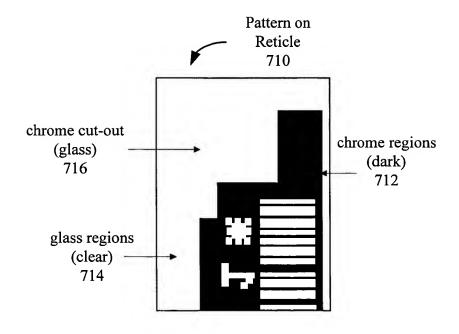
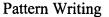


FIG. 7b

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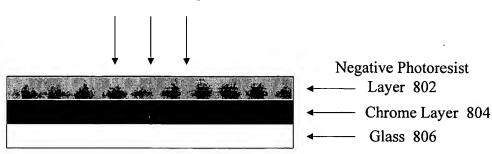


FIG. 8a

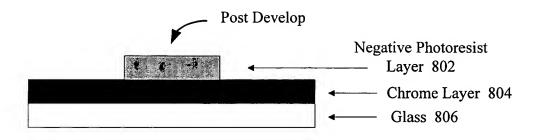


FIG. 8b

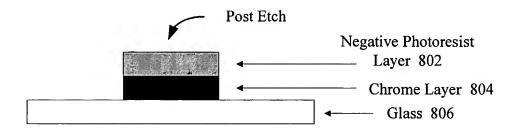


FIG. 8c

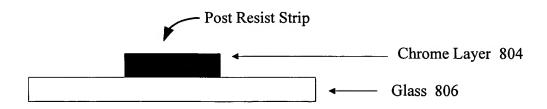


FIG. 8d

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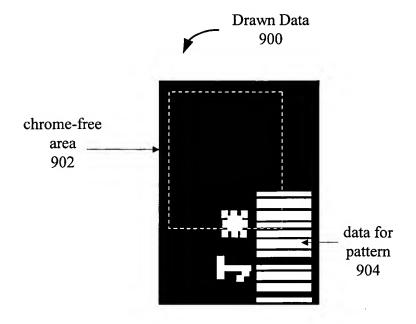


FIG. 9a

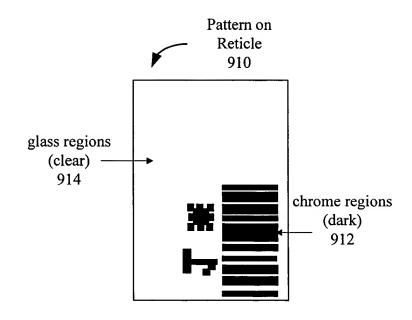


FIG. 9b